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Second Committee
Agenda item 87 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Venezuela:* draft resolution

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999 and 56/195 of 21 December 2001 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2001/35 of 26 July 2001,

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieving jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing that disaster reduction is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recalling that the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction is on the second Wednesday of October,

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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Stressing the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters within the framework of action for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, in line with their respective skills and capacities, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, inter alia, through capacity-building at all levels,

Stressing also the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters,

Recognizing the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[1] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[2] adopted by the Summit, which was held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, in particular relevant references in paragraph 13 of the Declaration as well as paragraph 37 of the Plan of Implementation,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[3]

2. *Requests* the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction to provide specific proposals, including a timetable and measurable targets, for the implementation of the actions agreed to by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in its Plan of Implementation on this matter, to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Decides* to take a decision concerning the date of the final event marking the conclusion of the review of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action,[4] at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Requests* the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to coordinate, and report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress of the ten-year review process of the Yokohama Strategy;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources for the effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide the adequate scientific, technical, human and other

[1] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[2] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[3] A/57/190.

[4] A/CONF.172/9, resolution 1, annex I.

resources to ensure adequate support for the activities of the inter-agency secretariat and the Inter-Agency Task Force and its working groups;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".